

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) Apparatus for protecting electronically published documents with a local computer system which can be connected locally by way of the internet to an external data source and which is adapted to call up, execute, or output the electronically published documents, wherein the local computer system comprises local data storage means which is adapted for the storage of data of the electronically published document in a form which is not usable for a user, wherein the local computer system further comprises means capable of receiving and processing additional protection data provided by the external data source by way of the internet following establishment of authenticated contact or at least temporary authenticated contact between the local computer system and the external data source in each session, as well as a linking means which is adapted to link a storage content of the local data storage means with the additional protection data and to produce the electronically published document therefrom in a form usable, meaningful or suitable for sensory perception by the user, and wherein the local computer system comprises output means selected in accordance with the type of the document to be electronically published, adapted to call up, execute or output the document in the form usable, meaningful or suitable for sensory perception by the user, wherein the data storage means is adapted to store the electronically published document in a non-reconstructed, in particular a non-linear form, wherein the non-reconstructed document can be converted into a reconstructed linear document, which is usable by the user, by the action of the linking means, utilizing the additional protection data, characterized in that the local computer system is designed to ensure such that a local storage of the produced document in the form usable, meaningful or suitable for sensory perception is not possible, and readability or usability of the produced document is dependent, ~~in each session~~, on authenticated contact or at least one temporary authenticated contact between the local computer system and the external data source via the internet prior to receipt of the additional protection data by the local computer system.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) Apparatus as set forth in claim 1, characterized in that the linking means is adapted such that structural elements of an electronically published document are modified by operational instructions derived from the additional protection data in order to effect the conversion to the reconstructed document.

4. (Previously Presented) Apparatus as set forth in claim 1 characterized in that the local data storage means is a magnetic or optical mass store in which the non-reconstructed data of the electronically published document are stored in a plurality of storage locations which are not interrelated, and wherein the additional protection data denote an interconnection or a sequence of the storage locations.

5. (Previously Presented) Apparatus set forth in claim 1 characterized in that the local data storage means is a magnetic or optical mass store, wherein the non-reconstructed data of the electronically published document which is stored therein have data gaps and the data gaps are directly closed by the additional protection data, or wherein the additional protection data include storage location identifications which refer to separate storage locations of the local data storage means, in which data, suitable to filling up the data gaps, are stored in a manner corresponding to the data gaps.

6. (Previously Presented) Apparatus as set forth in claim 1 characterized by an encoding means which is embodied by means of a first module of the external data source and a second module of the local computer system and which is adapted for the protected transmission of the additional protection data from the external data source to the local computer system.

7. (Previously Presented) Apparatus as set forth in claim 1 characterized by an identification or billing module which is adapted to identify a user of the local computer system and to acquire corresponding use or billing data.

8. (Previously Presented) Apparatus as set forth in claim 1 characterized by a control module which is provided in the local computer system and which is provided for dialogue and operational control of the data exchange with the external data source or an operating unit which is provided to detect user commands and to influence operation of the local computer system as a reaction to the user commands.

9. (Currently amended) A method of protection representation of electronically published documents, comprising the following steps:

- establishing contact or at least one temporary contact between a local computer system and an external data source via the internet,
- calling up document data from a local data storage means which is part of the local computer system and which stores the document data in a non-reconstructed, particularly a non-linear form,
- receiving additional protection data of the external data source connected to the local computer system by way of the internet, wherein receiving additional data comprises at least temporarily authenticating contact in each session, thereby making readability or usability of the produced document dependent, in each session, on authenticated contact or at least temporary authenticated contact between the local computer system and the external data source via the internet prior to transfer of the additional protection data such that readability or usability of the produced document is dependent on authenticated contact or at least temporary authenticated contact,
- linking the additional protection data to a content of the local data storage means to produce document data in a form usable, meaningful or suitable for sensory perception by the user,
- calling up, executing or outputting the document data in said form, usable, meaningful or suitable for sensory perception by the user, by means of output means selected in accordance with the type of the document to be published electronically, and
- ensuring such that a local storage of the produced document in the form usable, meaningful or suitable for sensory perception is not possible.

10. (Previously Presented) A method as set forth in claim 9 wherein the step of linking comprises the following steps:

- deriving operational instructions from said additional protection data,
- modifying structural elements of an electronically published document with the operational instructions, thereby providing a re-constructed document in the form usable, meaningful or suitable for sensory perception by the user.

11. (Previously Presented) A method as set forth in claim 9 characterized in that storage of local document data is effected in a sequence which, without linking to the additional protection data, does not permit representation of the document data in the form usable, meaningful or suitable for sensory perception.

12. (Previously Presented) A method as set forth in claim 9 characterized in that storage of the local document data with gaps occurs in such a way that the gaps are filled up by linking to the additional data.

13. (Previously Presented) A method as set forth in claim 9 characterized by the following steps:

- identifying the user in the external data source, and
- exchanging user or billing data in respect of the user as a reaction to identification prior to reception of the additional protection data.

14. (Previously Presented) A method as set forth in claim 9 characterized in that the step of receiving the additional protection data includes the following steps:

- encoding of the additional protection data by the external data source,
- transmitting the encoded additional protection data by way of the internet, and
- decoding the encoded additional protection data by the local computer system.

15. (Previously Presented) A method as set forth in claim 13 characterized by the following step:

- establishing a code agreement between the external data source and the local computer system prior to the encoding step.

16. (Previously Presented) A method as set forth in claim 9 characterized by successively calling up and representing a plurality of document units, wherein a set of the additional protection data is received for each of the document units.

17. (Previously Presented) A method as set forth in claim 9 characterized in that the reception of the additional protection data is dependent on a single or temporary access authorization established by agreement between the local computer system and the external data source.

18. (Previously Presented) A method as set forth in claim 9 characterized in that the data which are usable by the user include a text, produced in a language, and having a plurality of words, the words are provided in an arrangement which forms a meaning for the user, and at least one of the words is arranged by the effect of the additional data at a position in the text which permits clear identification and association of the text with the user.